

In 2016, Pakistan made a moderate advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. Pakistan ratified the UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict, and the Punjab Provincial Government passed legislation establishing 15 as the minimum age for employment and 18 as the minimum age for employment in hazardous work. Balochistan Province passed the Child Protection Act, which mandates the creation of child protection units, which provide for a referral mechanism by which rescued children can be placed in protective custody and obtain rehabilitation services. In addition, Punjab Province launched the Elimination of Child Labor and Bonded Labor Project. However, children in Pakistan engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in forced domestic work and bonded labor in brick kilns. Balochistan Province has not established a minimum age for work or a minimum age for hazardous work in compliance with international standards. Provincial Governments do not have the resources necessary to enforce laws prohibiting child labor, including its worst forms.



I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Children in Pakistan engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in forced domestic work and bonded labor in brick kilns.(1, 2) Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in Pakistan.

Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education

Children	Age	Percent		
		All Pakistan	Punjab Province	Sindh Province
Working (% and population)	5 to 14	Unavailable	12.4	31.5
Attending School (%)	5 to 14	Unavailable	77.1	60.6
Combining work and school (%)	7 to 14	Unavailable	8.2	11.6
Primary completion rate (%)		73.7	Unavailable	Unavailable

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2015, published by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2016.(3)

Source for all other data: Understanding Children's Work Project's analysis of statistics from the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5, 2014.(4)

Based on a review of available information, Table 2 provides an overview of children's work by sector and activity.

Table 2. Overview of Children's Work by Sector and Activity

Sector/Industry	Activity
Agriculture	Farming, including harvesting cotton, wheat, dates, sugarcane, tobacco, and potatoes (5-14)
	Raising livestock (7, 8, 10)
	Fishing,† including deep-sea fishing,† and harvesting and processing shrimp† (15-17)
Industry	Manufacturing glass bangles,† surgical instruments,† and palm leaf mats (10, 12, 18, 19)
	Weaving carpets,† tanning leather,† stitching soccer balls, weaving cloth using power looms,† and producing incense (6, 14, 16, 17, 20-24)
	Producing bricks; mining coal,† salt, and gemstones; and quarrying and crushing stone,† including gypsum (2, 5, 6, 10, 14, 21, 23, 25-30)
	Welding and steel fabrication, carpentry in small workshops, and construction† (8, 10, 21, 26, 28, 29, 31)
Services	Domestic work (6, 26, 28, 32-35)
	Working in hotels, restaurants, tea stalls, gas stations, and transportation (5-7, 9, 10, 21, 23, 26, 28, 29, 33, 36, 37)

Table 2. Overview of Children’s Work by Sector and Activity (cont)

Sector/Industry	Activity
Services	Scavenging [†] and sorting recyclables and collecting waste paper (6, 10, 11, 13, 20, 21, 23, 29, 38) Automobile repair (6, 7, 13, 21, 23, 26, 28, 29, 37)
Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor [‡]	Forced labor in brickmaking, carpet weaving, agriculture, manufacturing glass bangles, and mining coal (2, 13, 14, 24, 39, 40) Forced domestic work, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (1, 35, 40) Commercial sexual exploitation, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (13, 40, 41) Forced begging, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (13, 40, 42) Forced recruitment of children by non-state armed groups for use in armed conflict (17, 40) Use in illicit activities, including trafficking and producing drugs (17)

[†] Determined by national law or regulation as hazardous and, as such, relevant to Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182.

[‡] Child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor *per se* under Article 3(a)–(c) of ILO C. 182.

A national child labor survey has not been conducted since 1996, and the lack of recent data hampers the ability of the Federal and Provincial Governments to accurately assess the scope and prevalence of child labor.(13) Many child domestic workers are working under conditions of forced labor, including debt bondage, sexual assault, and extreme physical abuse.(1, 35, 40) Some children work with their families as bonded laborers in the production of bricks.(13, 40)




Non-state militant groups, such as pro-Taliban insurgents, force children to engage in espionage, armed conflict, and suicide attacks.(17, 40) There are reports that religious schools are used for military recruitment and training for armed groups.(43)

Many children face barriers in accessing education due to high rates of teacher absenteeism, inadequate facilities, lack of transportation, and corporal punishment, which may deter children from attending school.(17, 44, 45) Armed groups and extremist groups regularly attack and threaten schools, disrupting children’s access to education.(17, 46)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Pakistan has ratified most key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 3).

Table 3. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor

Convention	Ratification
 ILO C. 138, Minimum Age	✓
ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	✓
 UN CRC	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	✓
 Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	

In 2016, Pakistan ratified the UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict.

The Federal Government and Provincial Governments, including Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and Sindh have established laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 4). However, gaps exist in Pakistan’s legal framework to address and protect children from child labor.

Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor

Standard	Related Entity	Meets International Standards: Yes/No	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Federal	No	15	Section 50 of the Factories Act; Section 20 of the Shops and Establishments Ordinance; Section 26 of the Mines Act (47-49)
	Punjab	Yes	15	Section 3(1) of the Punjab Restriction on Employment of Children Ordinance; Section 5 of the Punjab Prohibition of Child Labor at Brick Kilns Act (50, 51)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Yes	15	Sections 2(1)(b) and 3(1) of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Prohibition of Employment of Children Act (52)
	Sindh	No	15	Section 3(1) of the Sindh Prohibition of Employment of Children Act; Section 81 of the Sindh Factories Act; Section 20 of the Sindh Shops and Commercial Establishment Act (53-55)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Federal	No	15	Sections 2–3 of the Employment of Children Act (56)
	Punjab	Yes	18	Section 3(2) of the Punjab Restriction on Employment of Children Ordinance (51)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Yes	19	Sections 2(1)(a) and 3(2) of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Prohibition of Employment of Children Act (52)
	Sindh	Yes	19	Section 3(2) of the Sindh Prohibition of Employment of Children Act (55)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	Federal	Yes		Parts 1–2 of the Schedule of the Employment of Children Act (56)
	Punjab	Yes		Schedule of Hazardous Work of the Punjab Restriction on Employment of Children Ordinance (51)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Yes		Parts 1–2 of the Schedule of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Prohibition of Employment of Children Act (52)
	Sindh	Yes		Schedule of the Hazardous Work of the Sindh Prohibition of Employment of Children Act (55)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Federal	Yes		Section 4 of the Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act; Sections 367, 370, 371A, 371B, and 374 of the Penal Code (57, 58)
	Punjab	Yes		Section 11(3) of the Punjab Restriction on Employment of Children Ordinance; Section 4 of the Punjab Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act (51, 59)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Yes		Sections 2(j) and 3 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act (60)
	Sindh	Yes		Section 4 of the Sindh Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act (61)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Federal	No		Sections 2 and 3 of the Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance; Sections 366A and 366B of the Penal Code (58, 62)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	No		Section 52 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Act (63)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Federal	No		Sections 292(B) and (C) (64)
	Punjab	Yes		Section 11(3)(b) of the Punjab Restriction on Employment of Children Ordinance; Section 40 of the Punjab Destitute and Neglected Children Act (51, 65)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	No		Sections 48 and 50 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Act (63)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Federal	No		
	Punjab	Yes		Section 11(3)(c) of the Punjab Restriction on Employment of Children Act; Section 36 of the Punjab Destitute and Neglected Children Act (51, 65)

Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor (cont)

Standard	Related Entity	Meets International Standards: Yes/No	Age	Legislation
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	No		Sections 35, 38, and 45 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Act (63)
Minimum Age for Military Recruitment				
State Compulsory	Federal	N/A*		
State Voluntary	Federal	Yes	18	Section 3 of the National Service Ordinance (66)
Non-state Compulsory	Federal	No		
	Punjab	Yes	18	Section 11(3)(a) of the Punjab Restriction on Employment of Children Act(51)
Compulsory Education Age	Federal	Yes	16	Section 3 of the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act (67)
	Punjab	Yes	16	The Punjab Free and Compulsory Education Ordinance (68)
	Sindh	Yes	16	Section 3(1) of the Sindh Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (69)
	Balochistan	Yes	16	Section 3 of the Balochistan Compulsory Education Act (70)
Free Public Education	Federal	Yes		Section 3 of the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act (67)
	Punjab	Yes		The Punjab Free and Compulsory Education Act (68)
	Sindh	Yes		Section 3(1) of the Sindh Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (69)
	Balochistan	Yes		Section 2(f) of the Balochistan Compulsory Education Act (70)

* No conscription (66)

The 18th Amendment to the Pakistan Constitution devolves all child welfare and labor issues from the Federal Government to the four Provincial Governments. Until each Province repeals or adopts a replacement law, Federal child labor laws are in force.(71) According to the Constitution, both Federal and Provincial Governments can pass legislation on criminal law.(72)

In 2016, Punjab Province passed the Punjab Restriction on Employment of Children Act, which establishes age 15 as the minimum age for employment and age 18 as the minimum age for employment in hazardous work.(51) The Province also passed the Punjab Prohibition of Child Labor at Brick Kilns Act, which prohibits the employment of children under age 14 at brick kilns.(50) During the year, Sindh Province passed laws prohibiting children under age 15 from working in factories and commercial establishments.(53, 54) Sindh Province also passed the Sindh Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act.(61, 73) The Federal Government gave the final approval for the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act, which prohibits the use of children in pornography.(64)

In 2017, Sindh Province passed the Sindh Prohibition of Employment of Children, which establishes age 15 as the minimum age for employment and age 19 as the minimum age for employment in hazardous work.(55)

Pakistan's Federal and Provincial laws are not completely in compliance with international standards on child labor, including the worst forms of child labor. Balochistan Province has not established a minimum age for employment or a minimum age for hazardous work. The Federal law setting the minimum age of 15 for hazardous work is not in compliance with international standards.(56) Hazardous work prohibitions for the Federal Government and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and Sindh Provinces are not comprehensive because they do not cover brickmaking and domestic work.(51, 52, 55, 56) The Federal Government's minimum age for work and minimum age for hazardous work are not in compliance with international standards because they do not extend to informal employment.(47-49, 56) Sindh Province's laws setting the minimum age for work also do not extend to informal work, because they apply only to factories that employ 10 or more employees, and shops and establishments.(53, 54)

The Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Act do not comply with international standards because they do not provide that children can be trafficked without coercion. These laws are also insufficient because they do not specifically prohibit internal human trafficking.(62, 63) The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Act further does not comply with international standards because it prohibits child trafficking only for exploitative entertainment.(63)

The Federal Penal Code does not specifically prohibit the use, procuring, and offering of children for pornographic performances. (58) Although the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Act prohibits the use of a child for the production of pornography, the law does not prohibit procuring and offering a child for the production of pornography. It also does not prohibit using, procuring, and offering of a child for prostitution or pornographic performances.(63)

Federal and Provincial laws, with the exception of the Punjab Provincial law, do not prohibit the use of children in drug production and drug trafficking.(51, 63) The Federal and Provincial Governments, with the exception of Punjab Province, have not enacted laws that prohibit the recruitment and use of children by non-state groups for armed conflict.(17)

III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor, including its worst forms (Table 5). However, gaps in labor law and criminal law enforcement remain and some enforcement information is not available.

Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role
Provincial Labor Inspectors	Inspect industrial areas and markets to identify child labor violations, enforce Provincial labor laws, and pursue legal action against employers.(17)
Provincial and Regional Police	Enforce violations of Federal and Provincial laws, including the Pakistan Penal Code and the Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act, concerning the worst forms of child labor. Refer children taken into custody to Child Protection Officers.(17)
District Vigilance Committees	Implement the Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act and assist in rehabilitating bonded laborers. Report to the District Magistrate. (17, 57)
Anti-Trafficking Unit of the Federal Investigation Agency	Enforce transnational trafficking-related laws, particularly the Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance. Cooperate with other governments on trafficking cases, operate a hotline for victims, and publish information on anti-trafficking efforts on its Web site.(17)
Child Protection Units	Take into custody at-risk children, including those rescued from exploitative labor situations. Present cases of children taken into custody to the Child Protection Court or the appropriate authority. Established in Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Sindh Provinces.(17, 63, 65, 74-76)

Labor Law Enforcement

In 2016, labor law enforcement agencies in Pakistan took actions to combat child labor, including its worst forms (Table 6).

Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	Related Entity	2015	2016
Labor Inspectorate Funding		Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Number of Labor Inspectors	National Total	Unknown	334 (78)
	Punjab	Unknown	130 (78)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	54 (77)	39 (78)
	Sindh	138 (77)	120 (78)
	Balochistan	Unknown	45 (78)
Inspectorate Authorized to Assess Penalties		Yes (77)	Yes (17)
Training for Labor Inspectors			
Initial Training for New Employees		Unknown (77)	Unknown
Training on New Laws Related to Child Labor		Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Refresher Courses Provided		Yes (77)	Yes (17)

Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor (cont)

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	Related Entity	2015	2016
Number of Labor Inspections	National Total	Unknown (77)	68,924 (78)
	Punjab	Unknown	9,237 (78)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	2,094 (77)	45,367 (78)
	Sindh	50,000† (77)	4,933 (78)
	Balochistan	Unknown	9,387 (78)
Number Conducted at Worksite		Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Number Conducted by Desk Reviews		Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	National Total	Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
	Punjab	Unknown	773 (17)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	120 (77)	Unknown
	Sindh	Unknown	28 (17)
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	National Total	Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
	Punjab	Unknown	268 (17)
	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	1 (77)	Unknown
Number of Penalties Imposed That Were Collected		1 (77)	Unknown (17)
Routine Inspections Conducted		Yes (77)	Yes (17)
Routine Inspections Targeted		Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Unannounced Inspections Permitted		Yes (77)	Yes (17)
Unannounced Inspections Conducted		Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Complaint Mechanism Exists		Yes (77)	Yes (17)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Labor Authorities and Social Services		Yes (77)	Yes (17)

† Data are from 2014 and 2015.

Following the devolution of Federal powers to Provincial Governments, the Provinces are responsible for enforcing labor laws, including those involving child labor law violations.(17) Limited labor inspection data are available for the Provincial Governments.

The number of labor inspectors is insufficient for the size of Pakistan's workforce, which includes more than 65 million workers. According to the ILO's recommendation of 1 inspector for every 40,000 workers in less developed economies, Pakistan should employ about 1,628 inspectors.(79-81) Provincial agencies that support law enforcement are also severely under-resourced. For example, labor inspectors receive very little training and have insufficient resources, which hamper the labor inspectorate's ability to inspect workplaces.(17, 82, 83)

Labor inspections vary across Provincial Governments. In Punjab, inspections are conducted regularly, but in Sindh, inspectors have stopped conducting unannounced inspections, and inspections are sporadic due to harassment.(17, 82) In 2016, labor inspectors in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa conducted 45,367 inspections. Each inspector therefore conducted an average of 1,163 inspections during this period.(78) This is a high number of inspections conducted by each inspector, and it is unknown whether this high number affects the quality of inspections. Across the provinces, fines and penalties are assessed infrequently and are insufficient to deter employers from using child labor.(71, 77)

Criminal Law Enforcement

In 2016, criminal law enforcement agencies in Pakistan took actions to combat the worst forms of child labor (Table 7).

Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2015	2016
Training for Investigators		
Initial Training for New Employees	Unknown (77)	Yes (84)
Training on New Laws Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (85)	Unknown (17)
Number of Investigations	Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Number of Violations Found	Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Number of Convictions	Unknown (77)	Unknown (17)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (77)	Yes (17)

In 2016, Balochistan Province passed the Child Protection Act, which mandates the creation of child protection units to provide a referral mechanism by which rescued children can be placed in protective custody and obtain rehabilitation services.(76)

Although some District Vigilance Committees have been established in Pakistan, many of the committees are inactive or ineffective.(40)

IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government has established mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor, including its worst forms (Table 8).

Table 8. Key Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Child Labor Focal Point	Coordinate government efforts to eliminate child labor at the Federal and Provincial levels. Responsible for developing a national strategy to eliminate child labor and works with Provincial Governments to adopt legislation and conduct child labor surveys.(86)
Interagency Task Force	Coordinate the anti-human trafficking efforts of the Ministry of the Interior, intelligence and law enforcement agencies, the Ministry of Law and Justice, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Support 27 Federal Investigation Agency anti-trafficking units that work with Provincial and district police officers to monitor and combat internal and transnational human trafficking.(40, 87) Maintain an Integrated Border Management System.(88)
Punjab Child Protection and Welfare Bureau	Coordinate the protection of destitute and neglected children by appointing child protection officers, supervising child protection units, and establishing child protection institutions and child protection courts.(65)
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Commission	Coordinate efforts to enhance the safety, welfare, and well-being of children, including by running programs for the prevention of exploitative child labor practices.(89) Led by the Province's Social Welfare, Special Education and Women Empowerment Department.(90)
Sindh Child Protection Authority	Coordinate efforts to ensure the rights of children in need of special protection, including child laborers, by establishing child protection units and appointing child protection officers.(75) Headed by the Provincial minister; members include two parliamentarians, lawyers, social activists, and representatives from departments that deal with children's issues.(91)

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government has established policies related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 9).

Table 9. Key Policies Related to Child Labor[†]

Policy	Description
Provincial Plans of Action to Combat Child Labor	Details how each Province plans to revise child labor legislation, including by strengthening the capacity of labor inspectors, generating awareness of child labor, improving reporting, and computerizing labor inspection data.(92)
Sindh and Punjab Provincial Plans of Action to Combat Bonded Labor	Details how the Sindh and Punjab Provinces plan to revise their bonded labor laws. Includes plans to strengthen the capacity of labor inspectors, generate awareness of bonded labor, improve reporting, and computerize labor inspection data.(93)

Table 9. Key Policies Related to Child Labor[‡] (cont)

Policy	Description
Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) Child Protection Policy	Describes how FATA will promote and create a protective environment for all children. Includes actions to be taken toward the prevention and elimination of child labor.(94)
Punjab Labor Policy	Seeks to improve working conditions, eradicate child and bonded labor, and establish social safety for workers and their families. Includes the goal of ending all child labor in brick kilns, in addition to the construction of schools, hospitals, and residences for workers.(95)

‡ The Government has other policies which may have addressed child labor issues or had an impact on child labor. (97-103)

The Provincial Government education policies have not included child labor elimination and prevention strategies.(96-102)

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2016, the Government funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms (Table 10).

Table 10. Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor

Program	Description
<i>Bait-ul-Mal programs</i> [‡]	Government-funded programs that aim to remove children from child labor, including its worst forms, and to increase vulnerable children's access to education. Programs include the National Centers for Rehabilitation of Child Labor and the Child Support Program.(103, 104)
Sabawoon Rehabilitation Center [†]	Pakistan Army center that rehabilitates children who were recruited and ideologically influenced by terrorist organizations and militant groups. Reintegrates youth into society by providing psychological treatment, education, and vocational training.(87, 105)
Elimination of Child Labor and Bonded Labor Project (Integrated Project for Promotion of 'Decent Work for Vulnerable Workers' in Punjab Province) ^{*†}	Punjab Government-funded programs that aims to provide education to vulnerable children, rehabilitate bonded laborers working in brick kilns, promote integration and coordination of government responses, strengthen legislation, increase the capacity of law enforcement and service providers, and increase the knowledge base on these issues.(106-108)
ILO-Funded Projects	ILO projects in Pakistan that aim to eliminate child labor, including its worst forms. These project include Education Program for Children of Brick Kiln Workers, implemented by the Government of Punjab in the Punjab Province; Strengthening Capacity of Constituents to Address Unacceptable Forms of Work Focusing on Child Labor, Bonded Labor and Informal Economy Workers (2015–2016); and Elimination of Child Labour and Promotion of Decent Work in the Stora Enso Value Chain (2015–2017).(109-111)
<u>Global Action Program on Child Labor Issues</u>	USDOL-funded project, implemented by the ILO in approximately 40 countries to support the priorities of the Roadmap for Achieving the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor by 2016 established by The Hague Global Child Labor Conference in 2010. Aims to strengthen legal protections and social services delivery for child domestic workers in Pakistan.(112) Additional information is available on the USDOL Web site .

* Program was launched during the reporting period.

† Program is funded by the Government of Pakistan.

The social programs of the Federal and Provincial Governments are insufficient to address the prevalence and scope of Pakistan's child labor problem. Existing programs also do not provide enough protection and rehabilitation services for bonded laborers and victims of human trafficking.(40) Government initiatives are needed to specifically target child domestic workers and child labor in the informal sector.(83) Additional social programs are also necessary to raise awareness and provide assistance to children used by non-state militant groups to engage in armed conflict.(113)

VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor, including its worst forms, in Pakistan (Table 11).

Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor, Including Its Worst Forms

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Ratify the Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons.	2013 – 2016
	Ensure that the age up to which education is compulsory is the same as the minimum age for work in Balochistan Province.	2009 – 2016
	Establish a minimum age of 18 for hazardous work in the Federal Government and Balochistan Province.	2009 – 2016
	Create comprehensive prohibitions against additional specific hazardous activities, such as brickmaking and domestic work.	2009 – 2016
	Ensure that the Federal Government's and Sindh Province's minimum age laws extend to all sectors and informal employment, regardless of the number of employees.	2011 – 2016
	Ensure that the law criminalizes child trafficking in compliance with international standards, including internal trafficking within Pakistan.	2011 – 2016
	Ensure that the law criminalizes the use, procurement, and offering of children in all forms of commercial sexual exploitation, including for prostitution, child pornography and pornographic performances.	2011 – 2016
	Ensure that the law prohibits the use of children in illicit activities, including in the production and trafficking of drugs.	2011 – 2016
	Ensure that the law criminally prohibits the recruitment and use of children under 18 by non-state groups for armed conflict.	2015 – 2016
Enforcement	Collect and publish enforcement data for child labor law violations and criminal violations of laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor.	2010 – 2016
	Hire a sufficient number of labor inspectors for the size of the workforce to enforce child labor laws.	2016
	Provide the funding necessary to adequately hire, train, and equip inspectors and investigators to enforce laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor.	2010 – 2016
	Allow labor inspectors in all Provinces to conduct inspections and assess penalties at any time, without notice.	2011 – 2016
	Determine whether the inspection ratio for each labor inspector in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is appropriate to ensure the quality and scope of inspections.	2016
	Ensure that fines and penalties are sufficient to deter employers from violating child labor laws.	2014 – 2016
	Publish information about criminal law investigations, violations found, prosecutions initiated, and the number of convictions in all provinces.	2016
	Ensure that vigilance committees are established and active throughout Pakistan.	2013 – 2016
Government Policies	Integrate child labor elimination and prevention strategies in the education policies of the Provincial Governments.	2014 – 2016
Social Programs	Conduct child labor surveys at the Federal and Provincial levels.	2009 – 2016
	Ensure that all children have access to free and compulsory education, as required by law.	2011 – 2016
	Increase the size and scope of government programs to reach children working in the worst forms of child labor, including domestic workers, bonded child laborers, and victims of human trafficking.	2009 – 2016
	Implement programs to raise awareness of and provide assistance to children used by non-state militant groups to engage in armed conflict.	2011 – 2016

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2. Arfan Latif, Shoukat Ali, Abdullah Awan, and Jafer Riaz Kataria. "Socio-economic and political determinants of child labor at brick kilns: A case study of district Jhang." *A Research Journal of South Asian Studies*, 31(no. 1)(2016); source on file.
3. UNESCO Institute for Statistics. *Gross intake ratio to the last grade of primary education, both sexes (%)*. Accessed December 16, 2016; <http://data.uis.unesco.org/>. Data provided is the gross intake ratio to the last grade of primary school.

This measure is a proxy measure for primary completion. This ratio is the total number of new entrants in the last grade of primary education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population at the theoretical entrance age to the last grade of primary. A high ratio indicates a high degree of current primary education completion. The calculation includes all new entrants to last grade (regardless of age). Therefore, the ratio can exceed 100 percent, due to over-aged and under-aged children who enter primary school late/early and/or repeat grades. For more information, please see the "Children's Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions" in the Reference Materials section of this report.

4. UCW. *Analysis of Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Statistics from National Household or Child Labor Surveys*. Original data from Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5, 2014 Analysis received April 13, 2017. Reliable statistical data on the worst forms of child labor are especially difficult to collect given the often hidden or illegal nature of the worst forms. As a result, statistics on children's work in general are reported in this chart, which may or may not include the worst forms of child labor. For more information, please see "Children's Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions" in the Reference Materials section of this report.
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